

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20 (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A method of extending the shelf-life of a packaged oxygen sensitive product in a plastic container, comprising the steps of:

placing a heated plastic into a mold, said heated plastic comprising an oxygen scavenging component wherein said compressed gas does not react with said oxygen scavenging component;

inflating said heated plastic with a compressed gas that is inert to the oxygen sensitive product;

cooling said inflated container; and

removing said cooled container from said mold~~The method of claim~~

15, wherein said heated plastic comprises a monolayer of plastic comprising an oxygen scavenging component.

22. (currently amended) A method of extending the shelf-life of a packaged oxygen sensitive product in a plastic container, comprising the steps of:

placing a heated plastic into a mold;

inflating said heated plastic with a compressed gas that is inert to the oxygen sensitive product;

cooling said inflated container; and

removing said cooled container from said mold~~The method of claim 13~~, wherein the shelf-life is extended by from about 20% to about 300% as compared to a container inflated with air.

23. (currently amended) A method of extending the shelf-life of a packaged oxygen sensitive product in a plastic container, comprising the steps of:

placing a heated plastic into a mold;

inflating said heated plastic with a compressed gas that is inert to the oxygen sensitive product;

cooling said inflated container; and

removing said cooled container from said mold~~The method of claim 13~~, wherein the shelf-life is extended by from about 50% to about 75% as compared to a container inflated with air.

24. (currently amended) A method of extending the shelf-life of a packaged oxygen sensitive product in a plastic container, comprising the steps of:

placing a heated plastic into a mold;

inflating said heated plastic with a compressed gas that is inert to the oxygen sensitive product;

cooling said inflated container; and

removing said cooled container from said mold~~The method of claim 13~~, wherein the shelf-life is extended by about 5 days as compared to a container inflated with air.

25. (currently amended) A method of extending the shelf-life of a packaged oxygen sensitive product in a plastic container, comprising the steps of:

placing a heated plastic into a mold;

inflating said heated plastic with a compressed gas that is inert to the oxygen sensitive product;

cooling said inflated container; and

removing said cooled container from said mold~~The method of claim 13~~, wherein the shelf-life is extended by about 2 weeks as compared to a container inflated with air.